STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

MAY 7 2001

STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPT. OF THE TANCE

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

| In the Matter of: |) Docket No. 01A-118 | -INS |
|---|----------------------|------|
| VALLEY FORGE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, NAIC #70211 |) CONSENT ORDER | |
| Respondent. |)) | |

Examiners for the Arizona Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a Market Conduct Examination of Valley Forge Life Insurance Company ("Valley Forge"). The Report of the Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Valley Forge dated December 23, 1999 alleges that Valley Forge has violated A.R.S. §§20-443, 20-448.01, 20-461, 20-462, 20-466.03, 20-2106, 20-2110, 20-2608, and A.A.C R20-6-211, R20-6-215, R20-6-801, and R20-6-1203.

Valley Forge wishes to resolve this matter without formal proceedings, admits that the following Findings of Fact are true, and consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Valley Forge is authorized to transact life and disability insurance pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Examiners were authorized by the Director to conduct a market conduct examination of Valley Forge. The on-site examination covered the time period from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1999, and was concluded on December 23, 1999. Based on the findings the Examiners prepared the "Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Valley Forge Life Insurance Company" dated December 23, 1999.

- 3. The Examiners reviewed all of the forms used by the Company during the time frame of the examination and found as follows:
- a. Valley Forge used a Life Insurance Buyer's Guide that did not contain all of the required language and therefore misrepresented the terms of the policy.
- b. Valley Forge used an HIV-related test consent form that was not filed nor approved by the Director.
- c. Valley Forge used a claim form that did not contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- d. Valley Forge used a variable universal life application form that did not contain:
- i. A prominent statement that the death benefit may be variable or fixed under specified conditions.
- ii. A prominent statement that the cash values may increase or decrease according to the investment experience of he separate account.
- 4. The Examiners reviewed 299 of 19,094 policies processed by the Company during the time frame of the examination and found as follows:
- a. Valley Forge failed to provide 24 applicants for the specific reason for an adverse underwriting decision or to advise them that upon written request that they may receive the specific reason in writing.
- b. Valley Forge failed to provide 51 applicants with a Summary of Rights.
- c. Valley Forge failed to require its agents to submit a Notice Regarding the Replacement of Life Insurance with three applications.
 - d. Valley failed to include a copy of all sales proposals in 99

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

21

20

22 23

24

25

- Valley Forge failed to send a copy of the Notice Regarding the e. Replacement of Life Insurance to 51 existing insurers.
- f. Valley Forge conducted HIV-related tests on three applicants without obtaining prior consent.
- The Examiners reviewed 73 of 74 claims processed by the Company 5. during the time frame of the examination and found as follows:
- Valley Forge failed to maintain seven files in such a manner that a. pertinent events and the dates of those events could be reconstructed.
- b. Valley Forge failed to accept or deny four claims within 15 working days of receipt.
- Valley Forge failed to pay interest on two claims that were not paid within 30 days of receipt of an acceptable proof of loss.
- d. Valley Forge failed to use an Authorization for the Release of Information in connection with seven claims.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Valley Forge violated A.R.S. § 20-443(1) and A.A.C. R20-6-211(E)(1) 1. because it used a "Life Insurance Buyer's Guide" that had not been filed nor approved by the Director.
- 2. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. § 20-448.01(B) and A.A.C. R20-6-1203(C) because it used an HIV-related test consent form that had not been filed nor approved by the Director.
- 3. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. § 20-466.03 by using a claim form that did not contain a compliant fraud warning statement.
 - 4. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-2608(1) because it used an application

for variable universal life insurance that failed to contain a prominent statement that the death benefit may be variable or fixed under specified conditions.

- 5. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-2608(2) by using an application for variable universal life insurance that failed to contain a prominent statement that the cash values may increase or decrease according to the investment experience of the separate account.
 - 6. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-2110(A) by:
- a. Failing to provide applicants with written notice of the specific reason for an adverse underwriting decision, or to advise the applicant that upon written request they could receive the specific reason in writing.
 - b. Failing to provide applicants with a Summary of Rights.
- 7. Valley Forge violated A.A.C. R20-6-215(F)(3)(a) by failing to require its agents to submit a Notice Regarding the Replacement of Life Insurance with the application and copies of all sales proposals used for presentation to the applicant.
- 8. Valley Forge violated A.A.C. R20-6-215(F)(3)(c) by failing to send a copy of the Notice Regarding the Replacement of Life Insurance to the existing insurer within three working days of receipt of the application.
- 9. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-448.01(B) by conducting an HIV-related test without the written consent of the applicant.
- 10. Valley Forge violated A.A.C. R20-6-801(C) by failing to include in its claim files all notes and work papers pertaining to the claim in such detail that pertinent events and the dates of such events can be reconstructed.
- 11. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-461(A)(5) and A.A.C. R20-6-801(G)(1)(a) by failing to advise first party claimants of the acceptance or denial of a claim within 15 working days after receipt of an acceptable proof of loss.

- 12. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-462(A) by failing to pay interest on first party claims that were not paid within 30 days of receipt of an acceptable proof of loss.
- 13. Valley Forge violated A.R.S. §20-2106 by failing to use a compliant Authorization to Release Claim Information form in connection with a claim for life insurance benefits.
- 14. Grounds exist for the entry of the following Order, in accordance with A.R.S. §§20-220, 20-456, and 20-2117.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Valley Forge Life Insurance Company shall cease and desist from:
- a. Distributing a "Life Insurance Buyer's Guide" that is not in a form approved by the Director, and has not been filed.
- b. Using an HIV-related test consent form that has not been filed nor approved by the Director.
- c. Using a claim form that does not contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- d. Using an application for variable universal life insurance that does not contain a prominent statement that the death benefit may be variable or fixed under specified conditions.
- e. Using an application for variable universal life insurance that does not contain a prominent statement that the cash values may increase or decrease according to the investment experience of the separate account.
- f. Failing to provide applicants with the specific reason for an adverse underwriting decision, or to advise them that upon written request they could receive the specific reason in writing.

- g. Failing to provide applicants with a Summary of Rights.
- h. Failing to require its agents to submit a Notice Regarding the Replacement of Life Insurance with the application and copies of all sales proposals used for presentation to the applicant.
- Failing to send a copy of the Notice Regarding the Replacement of Life Insurance to the existing insurer within three working days of receipt of the application.
- j. Failing to obtain written consent from an applicant prior to conducting an HIV-related test.
- k. Failing to include in its claim files, all notes and work papers pertaining to a claim in such detail that pertinent events and the dates of such events can be reconstructed.
- I. Failing to advise first party claimants of the acceptance or denial of a claim within 15 working days of receipt of an acceptable proof of loss.
- m. Failing to pay interest on claims that are not paid within 30 days of receipt of an acceptable proof of loss.
- n. Failing to use a compliant Authorization to Release Claim Information form.
- 2. Within 90 days of the filed date of this Order, Valley Forge shall submit to the Arizona Department of Insurance, for approval, action plans and/or evidence that corrections have been implemented and communicated to the appropriate personnel regarding all items mentioned in paragraph 1 of the Order section of this Consent Order. Evidence of corrective action and communication thereof includes but is not limited to memos, bulletins, Email, correspondence, procedures manuals, print screens and training materials.

- The Department shall be permitted through authorized representatives to 3. verify that Valley Forge has complied with all of the provisions of this Order.
- Valley Forge shall pay a civil penalty of \$14,000.00 to the Director for 4. deposit into the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. §20-220(B). The civil penalty shall be provided to the Market Conduct Examination Section of the Department prior to the filing of this Order.
- The Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Valley Forge 5. Life Insurance Company as of December 23, 1999, including the letter submitted in response to the Report of Examination shall be filed with the Department after the Director has filed this Order.

Charles R. Cohen Director of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Valley Forge Life Insurance Company has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- 2. Valley Forge Life Insurance Company admits the jurisdiction of the Department of Insurance, State of Arizona, admits the foregoing Finding of Fact, and consents to the entry of the Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. Valley Forge Insurance Company is aware of the right to a hearing, at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence, and cross-examine witnesses. Valley Forge Insurance Company irrevocably waives the right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 4. Valley Forge Life Insurance Company states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Valley Forge Life Insurance Company acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance is solely for the purpose of settling this matter, and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or its subdivisions or any other person from instituting proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. Robert W. Foster, Jr who holds the office of Vice President of Valley Forge Life Insurance Company is authorized to enter into this Order for it and on its behalf.

VALLEY FORGE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

April 25, 2001

(Date)

-8-

| 1 | Copy of the foregoing mailed/delivered This _7th_day of, 2001, to: |
|----|---|
| 2 | |
| 3 | Sarah Begley |
| 4 | Deputy Director Mary Butterfield |
| 5 | Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division |
| 6 | Paul J. Hogan Chief Market Conduct Examiner |
| 7 | Market Conduct Examination Section |
| 8 | Deloris E. Williamson Assistant Director |
| 9 | Rates and Regulations Division Steve Ferguson |
| 10 | Assistant Director Financial Affairs Division |
| 11 | Nancy House Chief Financial Examiner |
| 12 | Alexandra Shafer Assistant Director |
| 13 | Life & Health Division |
| 14 | Terry L. Cooper Fraud Unit Chief |
| 15 | |
| 16 | DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 2910 North 44 th Street, Second Floor |
| 17 | Phoenix, AZ 85018 |
| 18 | Nancy E. Komessar, MCE Coordinator Corporate Compliance, 43S |
| 19 | Valley Forge Life Insurance Company CNA Plaza |
| 20 | Chicago, IL 60685-0001 |
| 21 | |
| 22 | Curvey Burton |
| 23 | |